

Official indoor base ball guide containing the constitution, 1918

SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE 1917-1918

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Official Indoor Base Ball Guide

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Origin of Indoor Base Ball

!!an: - * Origin of Indoor Base Ball Indoor base ball can be said to have been born in Chicago on Thanksgiving Day, 1887. George W. Hancock was the "doctor" who brought the new game into .the world of sport, and this is how it got ; its start: On Thanksgiving Day, 1887, members of the Farragut Boat Club had assembled in their gymnasium and were having some fun by toss- ing an old boxing glove about the room. One of the boys took up a broom and calling uoon the thrower to "put one over, waist high," batted the glove across the hall. The batsman howled in glee as, landing on the glove with a loud

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smack, he sent it soaring over the head of the thrower. The two were having great sport when one of the other members, George W. Hancock, suddenly exclaimed: "Say, fellows, what's the matter with all of us getting in on this? Let's have a game of ball." Thereupon the huge wrestling mat was hauled out on the floor to serve as a diamond and a lively game of "scrub" took place. The * broom handle was broken off and used as a bat, and the unwieldy ,.<.: boxing glove served in place of a ball. The players had so much fun ..., 'out of the game that it did not break up for more than an hour, and , it gave Mr. Hancock a chance to call the boys around him and unfold ~a plan which had been forming in his brain as the game was going on. Mr. Hancock told his clubmates that he believed-it possible for the . game they had been playing to be developed into a modified game of : ase ball that could be played indoors. "I'll work on this proposition ~i'? .to-morrow," said Mr. Hancock, "and if you all will come down Satur- .-:.c day night, we'll have a regular game. I'll draw up some rules and will b; have a ball and bat on hand which will better suit the indoor game !: ?, and do no damage to the surroundings." /;i-:: ' Saturday night came around and all the members were on hand, Hancock's proposition having aroused a lot of interest in the club. ?: .; ^ Mr. Hancock read the rules which he had framed in - conformation with :? - w' the limited size of the hall, etc., and presented to the gaze of the as- ?. :\ s embled members the big ball and small rubber-tipped bat, which since *':~' a ve been identified with the game. Two teams were chosen and the ;(:!^ga'me started. The fun was fast and furious and players and specta- t,'|N f eors got plenty of enjoyment out of the affair. Everybody went away ,. singing the praises of "indoor base ball," as the new sport was ~. ~a christened. ' '-: ,. . From that little game played by the members of *the Farragut ~Moat Club in Chicago in 1887, indoor base ball has grown until it 'i; r, nDow not only reaches out into all parts of the country, but has been : < taken into foreign lands by American exiles. Thousands of persons I are entertained in the winter months, either as active participants i!:','? or enthusiastic spectators of the games. To the "fans" the winters ? <:S i do not seem half so long or as dreary as they did in the days when *,:: ~there was no form of base ball between October and April. They no '/: i longer have to hibernate like the bears when the cold weather comes. +,;.. e~ If Mr. Hancock's dish doesn't taste

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as delicious as the original to ~:' - <the base ball epicureans, it certainly can be said that indoor base ball, J? . { at least, is a splendid substitute for America's great national outdoor i+', ~ pastime.

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Officers of the National Indoor Base Ball Association of the United States

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Annual Meeting of the National Indoor Base Ball Association of the United States

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*:::" SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 7 RULE XXIII. (b) Instantly after three balls have been called by the: f' l:, ' ,': ' . um pire. " ' ! x" ;m-"2' .-.NOTE.-When agreement is made by the captains of\ both teams in the presence of the. umpires, Section (b). can be amended to allowing the batsman to become a i ,'; ~ ~base-runner instantly after four balls have been called by the umpire. If agreement is not made, then.Section ' (b) automatically becomes effective.' Article V of the Constitution of the Association was amended to allow the election of twelve members of the Executive Committee.' The Association also adopted a resolution to the effect that it'would be pleased to have all those interested in the game of indoor base ball to submit any suggestion. that would intend to clarify 'the rules, and asks all the managers and captains of the teams engaged in the game ' to forward to the president not later than May 1, 1918, any pictures . ". or data of their teams and leagues, so as to arrange for publication in the GUIDE AND YEAR BOOK. :.' The election of officers resulted as follows:-; President, A. T. Greeley; first vice-president, Martin A. Henkel; ' second vice-president, William H'. Radke; treasurer, John J., Enders; secretary, James J. Keown. Executive Committee: 'A. T. Greeley, chairman; Thomas D. Griffin, M. A. Meyer, M. J. Fitzpatrick, Frank . Gilfeather, Frank R. Halas, John P. Keary, A. G. Johnson, John J. i Rieman, A. C. O'Neill, C. L. Chambers, James J.

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Keown. Thomas D. : Griffin was appointed chairman of the National Advisory Committee.
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Knights of Columbus Indoor Base Ball League of Chicago

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LEIO XITT COUNCIL, KNIGHTS OF VOLUMBUS, UcluAuu,

ai;i? \ /?'~! ' ,'-SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. II ?:-,; . : " * watched
them' towards the finish of the last season,' and this fact :1:?' :.' , / sticks right out there
where you, can't miss it. i: :?:, -: ' "Sticktoitiveness," "get there ability," coupled with
perfected team :'-~.:~ ! play, harmony and the knack of following instructions, have
produced ,i: ;. 'i~ the inevitable result-victory. Each man htad his work to do, and that he
did it well is a matter of history that will go down into pos- terity as one of the agents of the
great successes of Commodore Barry : Council. ABOUT THIS YEAR'S CLUB. Last year
the skeptics told you that it was all over. Frank Halas :t' . was finished, but, being human,
they made their mistake, and we !:::11 a forgive them for it. Ex-President Thomas D.
Griffin of the Indoor . League and now leading the outdoor pastimers, recently presented
through the columns of this publication a striking argument on the values of athletics,
and has remarked to us that Frank R. Halas is one of his contentions that athletics are
and make for the best that is in us. Frank has been, heaving the soft ball for nigh onto
twenty years, and always right up there on top or mighty close to it. Just ,:~?,: . . reflect a
moment, please, and you will agree with us, that's' some rec- ord. There isn't anyone that
you can name that even comes near that !'. X - splendid performance. A willing worker
at all times, keeping in con- i ..' . . - dition, and giving all he has in stock, has made the
manager's job from the pitching end one of very little concern. Frank is, and has i!~i, '~-
"" been, the greatest indoor pitcher in the history of the game. Frank ("Rosi") Morrissey,

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our peerless catcher, is one of the greatest receivers of the game. Catching the same consistent brand of ball for fifteen years is the reason we advance for our claim as to his ability. Steady in catching, dangerous at the plate, doing the right thing at the right time, thinking ahead of our opponents, makes Frank one of the big factors in the "old machine's success." - ~ I - Captain John J. (Speedy Joe) Corcoran, third base. There are some clever third sackers in the "speed boys' game," but there is only one "Joie" Corcoran, and We believe the game will never again see a man like him, of his type. Clever, shifty, the fastest fielding third sacker you or I or anyone else has seen step on an indoor floor, a hitter and a bunter, fast on his feet, puts him in a class by himself. Arthur J. Moore, first baseman. His work during the past season makes good our oft-repeated statement that he is the very best little league old first sacker. Perhaps you don't, but we do, realize that his position on our club is a peculiar as well as a hard one, from the fact that his team mates have no compunctions as to how they get the ball across to him, figuring that as long as they stop it and shoot it across to him it's up to him to get it, and you remember, too, that Art gets them. No posing by this boy at all. He is another one of the big cogs in the "old machine." George Halas (the big guy) at second base is some (with capitals) indoor player. Ask anyone; they will tell you the same. A big power on the defense, he gets the ball where no one would dream of getting it. Cover ground; well, we don't know how he does it, but he has broken many a player's heart with his sensational work in the fielding game. However, we think more of him as a hitter. He hits fourth in our lineup and that is the clean-up position. When you look at our array of hitting talent, that says something for his ability. There is no comparison with the "big guy" as an all around indoor player. He is the wonder of the game. Walter H. Halas, our left shortstop, is without a doubt a wizard in all branches of the pastime. Nothing fancy, working there all the time. - There is no argument but this fellow is the most dangerous as

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A. & L. Marquettes of Chicago

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Polish-American Athletic Club of Eckhart Park, Chicago

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Indoor Base Ball in the West Parks of Chicago

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Indoor Base Ball in Ogdensburg, N.Y.

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Indoor Base Ball in Cleveland, Ohio

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Indoor Base Ball in Columbus, Ohio

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Indoor Base Ball in Lansing, Mich.

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Indoor Base Ball in Faribault, Minn.

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Peninsula Athletic League of California

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, GIRLS PLAYING. THE INDOOR GAME: OUTDOORS IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS..

Implements of the Game

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The Art of Batting

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How to Become a Base Runner

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Suggestions to Umpires

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How to Teach Girls to Play Indoor Base Ball

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Organization of Leagues

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Constitution and By-Laws

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Constitution of the National Indoor Base Ball Association of the United States

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Classified Rules for Indoor Base Ball

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Hancock's Indoor Base Ball Rules

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l l . l -- ; Y . _ " . " " , 4 " . 7.1, - l,

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1, L.SPALDING' S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. 73 'a '@. . (c) The umpires must compel the players to observe the pro- visions of the playing rules, and are hereby invested with the authority to order any player to do, or omit, any act as they 'i ' may deem necessary to give. force and effect to any and all of :'-.' such provisions. (d) There shall be two umpires, who shall take suitable posi- "" - tions on the field for the observation of the plays that they are to judge. l.. - (e) No. 1 shall decide on and call all balls, strikes, blocks, t dead balls, balks, illegal deliveries, fair and foul balls, ground .'-'. ' its, illegal hits, all questions arising at home plate, and shall " - 'call play and time and take a position behind the catcher. : :- '-'. ' (f) No. 2 shall judge all base plays excepting those at home i plate, and shall take a position about ten feet back of the base ' .11;.' line, midway between home and first, or home and third bases, ' "" ' . --or where he can get the best view of the play. No. 2 is also to : .-' . observe the pitcher's delivery so as to be able to properly notify^ ;i. No. 1 if requested of him, on the question of the pitcher prop- -' . erly heeling the back line, as provided in the rules. He should , ' also observe whether or not the foul tips are properly caught- - .-' . that is, before touching the floor, so as to assist No. 1 if ' : L requested of him. . |X ' . . (g) The umpires shall be sole judges of the play, and discus- ' . sion will only be allowed on correct interpretation of the rules' l} l - . and not on any optional decision. All. such discussions are restricted to the two captains. j~ :(h) The two umpires shall change positions at the end of : ' . ' every full inning. " ; ' v ' ..(i) In case an umpire for some

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reason cannot decide a play, : ' he shall refer to his colleague. ' (j) The umpires must keep the contesting nines playing con-- ,i; ' " stantly from the commencement of the game to its termination, L ' . allowing such delays only as are rendered unavoidable by acci- dent or injury. The umpires must, until the completion of the game, require the players of each side to promptly take- their positions in the field as soon as the third man is put out, and " . ' --

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Official Playground Ball Rules

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82 SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. is not caught in a fielder's cap, protector, pocket, or other part of his; uniform, or hits some object other than a fielder, before being caught. (d) If he makes a foul strike. (e) If he attempts to hinder the catcher from fielding the ball, or, if he fouls the ball intentionally, evidently without effort to make a fair hit. (f) If, while first base is occupied by the base runner, he has three strikes, except when two men are already out. (g) As per Rule XV. (h) If the batsman is hit by the ball on the third strike he shall be declared out, NOTE-If the batter interferes with the catcher fielding his position, the base runner cannot advance on that play. RULE XXIII. BASE RUNNING. The batsman becomes a base runner: (a) Instantly after he makes a fair hit. (b)

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Instantly after three balls have been called by the umpire. (c) Instantly after three strikes. (d) Instantly after the umpire declares an illegal delivery of the ball by the pitcher. NOTE- A foul tip is a ball hit by the batsman that does not go higher than his head. RULE XXIV. REGULAR ORDER OF BASES. Base runners must touch each base in regular order, i.e., either first, second, third and home plate, or third, second, first and home plate. The first batter to bat, when there is no base runner on base, has the option of running either to first or third base as preferred. The next batter must run the bases in the same order as the previous base runner if the latter is still on base. For example: the batter must run to third base after he hits the ball, or is entitled to a base, if the previous batter had gone to third base instead of first, and is still on base. RULE XXV. ENTITLED TO BASES. The base runner is entitled, without being put out, to take one base in the following cases: (a) If while he is batsman the umpire calls three balls. When bases are empty the runner must go to the base he starts for. (b) If the umpire awards the succeeding batsman a base on three balls, or in case of an illegal delivery. and the base runner is thereby forced to vacate the base held by him. If when runner is on base and the batter starts for the wrong base he must return and touch home plate and proceed to the correct base. (c) If the umpire calls a "balk" or an "illegal pitch." (d) If a ball delivered by the pitcher passes the catcher, or is fumbled, only one base may be taken, provided the runner gains it, unless it is a third strike or third ball, when the runner is entitled to all the bases he can safely reach. -(8) If the pitcher does not give him time to return to his base.

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11 i. " " I , - t " i r a i ; y . t ' l l ; ? p - * i " 1 . h ' r r 1 " - r i - " j : l , . i l " - _ i B

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h > ' C ; r ' ' A d ' ! " h : i . ' i t " r . l " " " ; " - , U \ ' i / i ! ; * l . 86 - " SPALDING'S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE . SEC.. 4. In the fourth column shall be set down the number of opponents put out by each player. When a batsman is called out for a foul strike, or when he fails to

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bat in the proper order, the put-out shall be scored to the catcher. In all cases of out for interference or . ' running out of line, the put-out shall be credited to the player who would have made the play, but for the action of the base runner or the batsman. SEC. 5. The number of times the player assists shall be set down in the fifth column. An assist shall be given to each player who, han- _dles the ball in assisting the put-out or other play of the kind. An assist should be given, the proper player who makes a play in timeto put 'a runner out, even if the player who would complete the play fails , through no fault of the player assisting. SEC. 6; An error shall be given in the sixth column for each mis- play which allows the batsman" or base runner to make one or more bases, when perfect play would have insured his being put out, except that "wild pitches." "bases on balls" or illegally pitched balls, all of ; which comprise battery errors, shall not be iAcluded in this column. ' An error shall not be scored against a catcher for a wild throw to prevent a stolen base, unless the base runner advances an extra base :: because of the error. :: No error shall be scored against a fielder who attempts to complete a double play, unless the throw is so wild that an additional base is gained. SEC. 7. When game is scored by points, the number of points scored by each player, instead of runs, shall be set down in the third column. S. . . RUIE XXXV. .. SUMMARY. SECTION 1. The score made in each inning of the game, SEC. 2. The number of two-base hits made by each player. SEC. 3. The number of three-base hits made by each player. \ SEC. 4. The number of home runs made by each player. SEc. 5. The number of hits made off each pitcher. SEC. 6. The number of times the pitcher strikes out the opposing batsmen. SEC. 7. The number of times the pitcher gives bases on balls. SEC. 8. The number of wild pitches charged to the pitcher. SEC. 9. The number of passed balls by each catcher. SEC. 10. The time of the game. SEc. !1. The names of the umpires,

What an Indoor Base Ball Club Needs

1 What an Indoor Base Ball Club Needs 'The first requirement of an indoor base ball club, and the 7"^ most important one, is the ball. To get the best results only the best ball made should be used. .Ij" ' The Spalding No. 1 Official Indoor Base Ball, the adopted ball -: of

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the National Indoor Base Ball Association, is recognized by it: all experienced players as the best, and is used by the majority of it- the organized leagues throughout the country, price \$1.35 each. dia ,The Spalding No. 2 Indoor Base Ball, regulation size and it: . 'weight, sheepskin covered, is a good practice ball; price \$1.00. For the armory game, the No. iX Official Armory Ball, same quality and price as the No. 1. The only difference is the size. The No. 3 ball, sheepskin covered, same as No. 2, except smaller, is a good practice ball for the armory game; price \$1.00. No. 10A is slightly harder than the No. 1, made especially to m; meet armory requirements. It is 10 inches in circumference, , covered with special oil-tanned leather, maintains its shape, and is guaranteed. This is the style ball used by National Guard teams playing in the armories of Greater New York; price \$1.10. The Spalding Official Indoor Base Balls, No. 1, IX and No. 10A, are made up with special oil-tanned leather cover, with patent Kapok filling (Patented Aug. 11, 1914). This filling adds to the life of the ball and makes it more resilient. Furthermore, with this filling, we are able to get the'ball correct weight by filling more compactly, so that the ball holds its shape-a really ideal combination of qualities and a feature that every indoor base ball 2' player will appreciate. The superior quality of this construction enables a team to play a more scientific game than with a ball that becomes lopsided. The ball will bat truer and can be handled by the fielder with less chance of an error, especially in throwing. The Spalding Indoor Base Ball Bats are made of select second ' growth ash, and in the most perfect models. The No. O bat, price 50 cents, handle wrapped with electric tape to prevent slipping. The No. 2 Bat, price 40 cents, is the same, except that the handle is not wrapped. Extra care is used in having these bats properly balanced and correct shape. Regarding bases, the best quality is the Spalding No. 1, made of ten ounce duck, unfilled; price for set of three, \$2.50. f -it ' O ' 1 ' * * - ;

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Itf. , ' -; ~, ,:; " :-.'SPALDING S OFFICIAL INDOOR BASE BALL GUIDE. . i', bbase ball and its effects on the physical condition of players, we ?'.cainot consistently recommend canvas top shoes for any athletic ::' use, and especially not for indoor base ball. : ' ... ', In

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'leather shoes we recommend No. AB, high cut, drab calf, ? , Bucher style, with heavy red rubber suction soles, superior i quality; price \$7.50 per pair. ; It is most essential that every indoor base ball player wear an all-wool jersey underneath his base ball shirt, as the games are generally played in a warm hall, and the player naturally per- i spires freely; the wool jersey absorbs this perspiration and pre- vents the wearer from contracting cold or other disease in going out in the cold atmosphere after the game when overheated. Spalding's "T" shirt is also often used; it costs \$2.50, \$3.00 and , \$3.50. ' Every player should be equipped with the Spalding coat sweater " to wear between'innings and after the game. A garment of this kind will help to protect the health of the player, and also prevent the muscles from stiffening or from cold in the shoulder or arm. -"; Each player should wear the Spalding No. 5 all elastic "Bike" : supporter, price 55 cents each, or a canton flannel supporter, '-price 25 cents each. In case of a sprain or similar injury, the Spalding elastic ankle, knee, elbow and wrist bandages will be of material assistance and ' enable the player to take part in the game where otherwise he would be obliged to remain idle. . . .

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1 t.tL:~! \* 3 03i'. 0^Li \*; 13 -' \* : .L 3 \* 0i 8 \*3 il I X \_\_ \_ . .. !S NEW YORK CHICAKGO  
SAN FRANCISCO CHXICO'EXE. MASS.' BROOKYN BOSTON PHILADELPHIA  
LONDONENGG